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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Via Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

In re patent application of: )  
 ) Before the Examiner  
Donald C. Boyle )  
 ) Anthony D. Barfield  
Serial No. 10/688,174 )  
 ) Group Art Unit 3636  
Filed October 16, 2003 )  
 )  
RETRACTABLE COUPLING ) Conf. No. 9518  
APPARATUS )  
 ) April 17, 2007

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as via facsimile (571) 273-8300 to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on	
17 APRIL 2007	(Date of Deposit)
John V. Moriarty	
Name of Registered Representative	
Signature	
17 APRIL 2007	Date of Signature

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 18, 2007, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

Amendment Response  
Serial No. 10/688,174 Group Art Unit 3636  
Atty. Docket No. 5015-491  
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